

Resumé of the First Meeting of the NARAC Officers 2016

Venue: Hippolytusstr. 43, Troisdorf

Date: December 02, 2016

Time: 12:00pm

Attendance:

1. Gerald Eze – President (Present)
2. Oluoma Enebeli – Vice President (Present)
3. Kingsley Anagolu – General Secretary (Present)
4. Thaddeus Eze – Financial Secretary (Excused)
5. Bernadette Chime – Treasurer (Present)
6. Stanley Ekwughu – Director of Socials (Absent)

The meeting which was held at the residence of the president started with a combined opening prayer for the meeting and over the cola-nut led by the president, Gerald Eze at about 12:40 pm. Subsequently, he welcomed the four officers in attendance. His words included those of gratitude on behalf of all officers for the opportunity and privilege to serve in the various capacities involved. Thereafter, he encouraged the office holders to take up the challenges of the office in order to get the NARAC association to the next level. With that, he laid out the agenda for the meeting with the following items:

- a) Handover Situation Report (from previous officers)
- b) Offices and functions
- c) Matters arising from the previous minutes
- d) Send-fort of immediate previous officers
- e) NARAC Situation (past, present and future)

a) Handover Situation Report (from previous officers)

Generally, the situation of the handovers were reported to be skeletal and not comprehensively satisfactory. The president reported having been handed over though in a sketchy form and he expressed concerns with regards to the insufficient information and lack of knowledge he has as it pertains to the management of the association's website which is in a state of obsolesce. The Secretary reported having been handed over to with the official documents of the secretariat save the minutes of the previous meeting held at Bonn (2016). Also, the financial secretary's documents have been handed over to him as reported by the secretary, although it contains

substantial discrepancy in terms of its financial records with what was handed over to the Treasurer. From the documents available from him, it records the association as having the fiscal strength of **360, 83€** which contradicts the treasurer's records of **3. 900, 28€**. The secretary was prayed to alert him to liaise once more with the previous financial secretary in order to unify and straighten up the records. Still on the situation of the handovers, the vice president reported having been handed over some gift materials of the association (pen).

On the issue of website, the officers agreed that it should be kept and regularly updated and this entails that the president has to get in touch with the previous president to get acquainted with the dynamics of the website's management in order that it will be under the full control of the current officers.

b) Offices and functions

At this point the secretary read out the association's standing constitution wherein the functions of the officers contained. Beyond this, it was discovered that the constitutional provisions of the association differs exponentially with her current practices and to this, the officers agreed that the constitution needs to be made public to the general NARAC body in her next Get-Together to decide on the necessity of a possible constitutional review. Currently annexed to the function(s) of the vice president is the responsibility of being in charge of the liturgical life of the association.

c) Matters arising from previous minutes

Due to the unavailability of the Minutes of the previous Get-Together held at Bonn (2016) by the DDL Congregation, there could not be any matters arising from it. For this, the item was skipped as the secretary was urged to get the minutes from the previous secretary.

d) Send-fort of immediate previous officers

As it concerns what ought to be given to the immediate past officers, the current officers came to the conclusion that a physical memento that reflects the insignia of the association will be given to them. This memento goes alongside a credit voucher (*Guteschein*) of 20€.

e) NARAC Situation (past, present and future)

In this item of the agenda, the older members of the association reported how they met NARAC and the factors that held it alive but also some of the factors that are suspect in the dwindling interest to its attendance. Foremost, the association used to keep faith with the constitutional provision of a General meeting in the month of September, where papers are presented and discussed, then the Easter party (Get-Together). However, due to the poor attendance of the General meeting over time, it was decided to be cancelled and every activity was concentrated on the Easter party which made it too congested and this stifled the party/entertainment elements. Some other factors including those of transportation, misunderstandings with regards to the purpose of the association, and concerns for brotherly and sisterly care came up as factors that could have contributed to the dwindling interest in the Get-Together.

As an antidote to the diminishing interest to the association and the consequent attendance to the Easter party, it was agreed that the association has to show more concern to her members as and when due especially in times of death. Moreover, it is expedient to separate the meeting aspect with the party aspect whereby the Easter Get-Together is to be exclusively reserved for the party whereas the officers would be taking care of the meeting aspect. This will give the members the leverage to have a feel of the entertainment element which characterizes a party of such standing and this promises in potency to boost the attendance interest. To this, various entertainment activities were suggested including dancing by the sisters, the musical chairs (colloquially known within NARAC as the “*Anosike show*”), riddles and jokes, and indeed any other element that could enhance the entertainment factor which will make the Get-Together more interesting.

With these items concluded, the vice president Oluoma Enebeli gave a vote of thanks to all for the productive meeting even as she thanked in a special way the president for the initiative and for the lunch served. By 4:15pm, the meeting came to a conclusion with the closing prayers led by Bernadette Chime and the final blessings by the priests.

NB: The next Easter party is to be hosted by the Schönstatt congregation come April 17, 2017 (Easter Monday).

Kingsley Anagolu

General Secretary

NARAC – Germany

Troisdorf, Dec. 02, 2016.